

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**COUNTRY Hungary REPORT TOPIC Corps Signal Battalion in DebrecenEVALUATION  PLACE OBTAINED  25X1DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 8 June 1955

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REFERENCES PAGES 5 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED  
Information

1. Prior to 27 October 1953, the corps signal battalion (Hungarian: hadtestközvetlen híradó zászlóalj) was located in the southwestern section of the former Artillery Barracks on the northwest side of Kassai Street in Debrecen (R 48/K 40), west of Samsoni Street which branched off toward Hajdusamson (R 48/K 51). The barracks has meanwhile been extended. The superior headquarters of the battalion was the corps in Debrecen which was located in the Nagy [redacted] in the west side of Nagy [redacted] Barracks) on the west side of [redacted] Peterfia Street) and the north side of Honvéd Street. The battalion was activated in October 1951 with officers assigned from the corps signal battalion in Székesfehérvár (Q 48/Z 00 [redacted] officer school, and NCOs and EM from the corps signal [redacted] tecske [redacted] (Y 6/N 95) and Székesfehérvár. 1
2. In October 1953, the corps signal battalion was organized into the: battalion headquarters, a radio company, a switchboard operating company, a telephone-construction company, and a battalion NCO school which was composed of temporarily detached personnel.
3. The staff of the battalion headquarters included the battalion commander, the deputy battalion commander for political affairs, the chief of staff, the deputy chief of staff, an officer for personnel affairs, a mobilization officer, a Party secretary, an agitator (propaganda instructor), a Disz who was a secretary, a cultural officer, an athletic officer, a counterintelligence officer, a technical officer, a chemical defense officer, a motor transport officer, the battalion surgeon, the supply services officer, the ration supply officer, the clothing supply officer, the finance officer, an armorer-artificer official, and an undetermined number of NCOs and EM.

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4. The radio company included the company headquarters, a light radio platoon, a medium radio platoon, and a heavy radio platoon.
5. The company headquarters of each company included a company commander, a deputy company commander for political affairs, a first sergeant, and a clerk.
6. Each radio platoon included a platoon leader who was an officer and three squads each of which ~~consisted of~~ a squad leader who was an NCO and about 12 enlisted men. *Consisted of*
7. The switchboard-operating company included the company headquarters whose organization was identical to that of the radio company, a switchboard platoon, an amplification platoon, and a teletype platoon.
8. The switchboard platoon ~~included a platoon leader who was an officer,~~ and 3 squads each of which ~~consisted of~~ a squad leader who was an NCO and about 12 enlisted men. *consisted*
9. The amplification platoon included a platoon leader who was an officer, an amplification squad which had a squad leader who was an NCO and 15 soldiers, and a measuring squad and a technical squad each of which had a squad leader who was an NCO and 9 enlisted men.
10. The teletype platoon included a platoon leader who was an officer and 3 squads each of which had a squad leader who was an NCO and 8 enlisted men.
11. The telephone-construction company included the company headquarters, which was staffed like the company headquarters of the radio company, a light construction platoon and a light reserve construction platoon, each of which had a platoon leader who was an officer and 3 squads of a squad leader who was an NCO and 8 enlisted men, and a heavy construction platoon which included a platoon leader who was an officer and 3 squads each of which had a squad leader who was an NCO and 9 enlisted men.
12. The battalion NCO school where training courses were held from January to October of every year was organized into the school headquarters, a radio platoon, a teletype platoon, and a telephone-construction platoon. The trainees numbered about 100 men, about 80 of whom came from the companies of the corps signal battalion, while about 20 were detached from the AAA units in Orosháza (Y 7/0 60) and Szentes (Y 7/0 32). 25X1  
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The AA artillery men returned to their respective units. 2
13. No service colors other than dark-blue with lightning-flash cluster and black with a snake coiling around a cup were observed. 3
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15. Small arms of the battalion included new Hungarian-made Model M-48 7.62-mm rifles which were issued to enlisted men; new Hungarian-made model M-48 7.62-mm submachine guns with drum magazines which were issued to NCOs and drivers; and model M-48 pistols which were issued to officers.
16. Signal equipment was available as specified below: The light radio platoon was equipped with Hungarian-made model R/20 radio sets which numbered about 18 units including a reserve stock which was stored at the battalion headquarters. As the performance of this set was insufficient, this type of equipment was scheduled to be replaced by a newly designed model. The medium radio platoon was equipped with Hungarian-made model R/7b radio sets which totalled 15 units for the entire battalion since, prior to the summer of 1953, the heavy radio platoon was also still equipped with this model. Since the summer of 1953 the heavy radio platoon was equipped with Hungarian-made model R/40 radio sets. About 6 sets of this model were available at the battalion. The set, which had a maximum range of 800 kilometers, was used for communication with adjacent and superior headquarters. All 3 models were manufactured at the Orion radio factory at 29 Jaszberenyi Street in Budapest. The switchboard-operating platoon had a portable switchboard with 50 connections, about 25 portable switchboards with 10 connections, and 3 portable switchboards with 5 connections which were equipped with drops and switching keys. The switchboards were manufactured at the Hungarian telephone factory. The amplification platoon was equipped with 4 model H-1 Siemens amplifiers. The teletype platoon had 8 model M-51 Siemens teletypewriters. Each squad of the light telephone-construction platoon had 10 reels with 1,000 meters light field wire while another 20 reels were available in the signal depot of the battalion, and 2 Hungarian-imitated US model M-48 field telephones. Each squad of the heavy telephone-construction platoon had 40 reels with 250 meters four-stranded rubber-insulated wire while another 40 reels were available at the signal depot of the battalion. The equipment of the light reserve telephone-construction platoon was stored at the signal depot of the battalion.
17. The motor-transport equipment of the battalion included 10 closed weapon carriers which were used as radio vehicles for the model R/7b and R/40 radio sets; 8 open-top 1.5-ton weapon carriers for equipment and wire patrols; 20x3-ton Csepel trucks for the telephone construction company; 2 jeeps; 2 Soviet-imitated 250-ccm DKW motorcycles; 2 x 250-ccm Csepel motorcycles; 2 x 1.5-ton Molotov trucks; and 1 Skoda Diesel van-like motor vehicle which was used as a repair-shop truck.
18. From 2 November 1951 to 6 January 1952, the recruits of the battalion received basic training.
19.  NCO school of the battalion. The trainees received joint instruction in signal tactics, equipment, electrotechnics, topography, ordnance, service regulations, and political indoctrination, and instruction separated by their specialties in radio service, teletype service, and telephone construction according to the following schedule:

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0500	reveille
0520 to 0540	morning gymnastics
0600	breakfast
0700 to 1300	instruction inclusive of an hour's political indoctrination
1400 to 1600	lunch and noon break
1600 to 1900	practical service
1900	supper
2000 to 2100	refresher instruction
2100	roll call
2200	taps.

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20. From April to October of 1952 and 1953, the corps signal battalion was located in the western section of the summer camp in the "Nagyerdő", 5 kilometers north of Debrecen, on both sides of the electrified railroad line from Debrecen to Hajdusamson. The western section of the camp was established by the troops as late as 1952. A permanent brick building was constructed for [REDACTED] area of the corps signal battalion. The troops [REDACTED] s. 4
21. The cadre EM belonged to the 1930 class, were inducted in the fall of 1950, and came from all areas of the country. In the fall of 1951, two hundred and fifty recruits were assigned to the corps signal battalion. About 80 percent of these men were members of the 1931 class, and about 20 percent were deferred members of the 1930 and 1929 classes. All of them came from Borough VII in Budapest. In the fall of 1952, one hundred and seventy recruits were assigned to the battalion. Most belonged to the 1932 class, while [REDACTED] belonged to the 1931 class. All of them came [REDACTED] of Budapest.
22. In the fall of 1952, about 70 soldiers were discharged, while in the fall of 1953 about 200 soldiers [REDACTED] were discharged. All of them had completed a two years' term of active military service. 5
23. The corps signal battalion received ration quantity I, while the NCO school received ration quantity III.
24. The radio operators occasionally received the broadcasting program of the "Voice of America" with the model R/40 radio set.
1. Comment. The corps headquarters [REDACTED] in the Nagy Sandor Barracks, formerly Peterfia Barracks, in Debrecen is known and is again confirmed by the present report. [REDACTED] . An independent signal battalion [REDACTED] in the former extended Artillery Barracks in Debrecen had been reported by another source. The present report confirms this unit as the corps signal battalion and determines the superior headquarters of this unit.

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2. Comment. The present report contains valuable details on the organization of a Hungarian corps signal battalion and the temporarily built up NCO schools of such units. Previous information indicates that the trainees of field NCO schools include NCOs who receive instruction in special technical fields, NCO candidates, and reserve NCOs. AAA units in Orosháza and Szentes are reported for the first time. 25X1
3. Comment. The data on service colors and insignia confirm and supplement previous information. 25X1
4. Comment. The summer camp in "Nagyerdo", 5 kilometers north of Debrecen, is reported for the first time. 25X1
5. Comment. The present data confirm previous information. 25X1

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